Egsement

SM-7
SOTTERLEY
Hollywood
Private, open to public

first quarter 18th century

The architectural evolution of this 1 1/2-story frame house is attributed to various members of the Plater family who lived here between 1730 and 1822, including George Plater, Governor of Maryland from 1790 to 1791. The original builder is thought to have been James Bowles.

The initial stage was one story in height and three bays in length at the river facade. The gable roof had no dormers, and there was a single interior chimney at each end. On the interior, the ground floor contained two rooms. The second stage of construction involved the addition of one room at the rear elevation which first gave the house its present "T" plan. Later alterations include the addition of a kitchen wing and the extension of the house at the opposite end; the front slope of the roof was raised to two stories, although the rear slope remained at its original angle.

Notable interior detail includes the Chinese Chippendale trellised stair in the main hall and the shell alcoves and other interior moldings of the present drawing room, attributed to Richard Boulton.

On the grounds are several interesting farm dependencies, including a rare 18th century brick necessary house, a brick stable or warehouse dated 1757 in glazed headers, and other 18th and 19th century structures.

(continued)

SM-7 Sotterley, page two

Mansion Foundation, Inc. It is open to the public from June through October each year and by appointment during the other months.

Also see archeological listing.

This property has been included on the National Register of Historic Places, United States Department of the Interior.

UNITED	STATES	DEPAI	RTMEN	T OF	THE	INT	ERIOR
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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St. Mary's	
FOR NPS USE ONL	Y
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Sotterley is located northeast of Maryland Route 245, three miles northeast of the intersection of Maryland 245 and Maryland Route 235 at Hollywood, Maryland.

Sotterley is a long one-and-one-half story, frame building, covered with wide, beaded clapboard siding and "Spanish brown" color wood shingle roof. It measures approximately 100 feet in length and is twenty feet wide. An ell is located on the west side of the building. A portion of the east facade is two full stories in height, an alteration from the eighteenth century. On all facades of the building are low porches, the east porch being the more imposing with square paneled columns supporting the roof, and Newcastle flagstone floor, probably those mentioned in the James Bowles' inventory of 1727. At the point where the ell meets the main house there is a square unlighted wood cupola. On the south end of the building is a passage and brick kitchen. Each gable is faced with brick.

The floor plan of Sotterley is unconventional in Maryland houses, though research has enabled the precise development of the house to be traced, beginning as a simple one-story, two-room dwelling sheathed completely with riven oak clap-Its original length was approximately forty-four The ell was then added onto the west side of the building and was called the "new room" in 1727. Subsequent additions consisted of: a wing to the south with a passage and dining room, now (1971) one large room; the heightening of a part of the east facade; and then the major changes Those latter changes conprior to the American Revolution. sisted of lengthening the house to the north by about fourteen feet thereby changing the placement of the original north wall approximately ten feet south. The resulting two The old paneling rooms then became the stair hall and parlor. was reworked for the stair hall and a new staircase with a Chinese trellis balustrade installed. The parlor was then completely paneled to a heightened ceiling in the style of the period.

The parlor has a flush paneled dado beneath the chair rail and railed panels above. The chimney breast has a mantel shelf supported on carved consoles, croisettes trim the fireplace and a panel above has a band of fretwork. Flanking the chimney are a pair of carved shells within rectangular paneled alcoves, also supported on carved consoles. The chair rail also has a band of fretwork. Each of the individual component parts of the parlor are well executed, but their relation to each other and the whole is grossly misunderstood.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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FOR NPS USE ONLY
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Sotterley

#6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS continued

Maryland Register of historic sites and landmarks

1970 State

Maryland Historical Trust 94 College Avenue Annapolis, Maryland Code: 24

#7. DESCRIPTION continued

The study, stair hall and sitting room are fully paneled to the ceiling in an earlier style. In the latter two rooms is a paneled summer beam. The mahogany Chinese Chippendalestyle stair balustrade was installed by Richard Boulton, who was the architect for the nearby St. Andrews Church, St. Mary's County, constructed in 1767, and for "Bushwood," a St. Mary's County Georgian mansion destroyed by fire in 1934, which also had a Chinese Chippendale staircase balustrade.

The dining room was formerly smaller, consisting of a passage and room, as mentioned above. Its walls are now (1971) covered with a modern wall paper, the design of which was adapted from a design in Brighton Pavillion, Brighton, England. South of the dining room is a pantry and storage room. The latter is unusual in that it has a barrel-vaulted, plaster ceiling.

When the east porch roof was repaired in 1953, a pediment above the main east entrance was found as well as the original sanded finish, a finish that was used on Mt. Vernon, Virginia. Also some round-butt wood shingles painted "Spanish brown" were found. Some shingles and a part of the siding are on view to the public.

After Mr. Herbert Satterlee purchased Sotterley, he reconstructed the found chimneys and poured a concrete footing beneath the entire structure, stabilizing the old building but carrying away some clues as to its evolution.

PERIOD (Check One or Mare as A Pre-Calumbian) 15th Century	Appropriate) 16th Century 17th Century		🔀 20th Century
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (II Applicable	e and Known) Before	1727, mid-18th	century. After
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The sources of Sotterley's significance are numerous. Sotterley is one of the few Maryland buildings that can be dated without question to the first quarter of the eighteenth century. The mid-eighteenth-century woodwork in the drawing room and stair hall must be classified among the finest pre-Revolutionary woodwork in the southern colonies. Sotterley's exterior river facade with its white columned portico and cupola gives the same effect, although a bit on a smaller scale, as Mount Vernon. The fact that the exterior was at one time rusticated adds to the similarity. The numerous out buildings—some of an early date—contribute to the creation of the atmosphere of an eighteenth—century plantation.

In 1960 the Historic American Building Survey of the United States Department of the Interior certified Sotterley, St. Mary's County, Maryland, as a building of architectural and historical significance "worthy of the most careful preservation." A house museum since 1961, Sotterley's history encompasses a Governor of Maryland, George Plater; a nineteenth-century owner who lost this plantation in a dice game to an owner of Stratford Hall; Herbert L. Satterlee, a member of America's most powerful financial circles; and Mrs. Mabel Satterlee Ingalls, a granddaughter of Mr. John Pierpont Morgan, founder of the banking house, J. P. Morgan Company.

Although not built until the eighteenth century the land on which Sotterley is located was a part of Resurrection Manor, a 4,000 acre tract patented in 1650 to Thomas Cornwallis, one of the outstanding men of seventeenth-century Maryland. In 1659 Cornwallis sold Resurrection Manor to John Bateman, a London merchant. After Bateman's death in 1663 Resurrection Manor had several seventeenth-century owners. A 1684 deed recording one of the land transactions mentions several buildings on the tract. However, these do not refer to Sotterley.

No building appeared until the eighteenth century after John Bowles bought 890 acres of Resurrection Manor. Six

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

Maryland

Form 10-300a (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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Sotterley

#8. SIGNIFICANCE continued

years later Bowles had his tract resurveyed and named it Bowles' Separation. Bowles built the nucleus of Sotterley and erected several outbuildings. In addition to operating his plantation Bowles served on the Governor's Council.

In 1727 Bowles' three daughters who had all married Virginians inherited Bowles' Separation. Bowles' widow retained the right to life tenure on the property.

Two years after John Bowles' death his widow remarried. Her second husband was George Plater II (1695-1755). They lived at Sotterley. Plater served Maryland as a Collector of customs, a member of the Governor's Council and Secretary of the Province--the second highest office in the province. In 1753 Plater bought Bowles' Separation formally beginning the Plater period of ownership in the history of Sotterley. Upon his death two years later the plantation passed to his son George Plater III (1735-1792).

Of all the inhabitants of Sotterley George Plater III was perhaps the most distinguished. He received legal training at the College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia. From 1767 to 1773 he was Naval Officer of the Patuxent River, a position previously held by both his father and grandfather. He represented St. Mary's County on the Council of Safety in 1776 and at the constitutional convention in Annapolis of the same year. From 1778 until 1781 Plater was a member of the Continental Congress. He then served in the Maryland Senate eventually becoming its presiding officer. While a Senator, Plater supported Maryland's ratification of the United States In 1791 the legislature chose Plater to be Governor of Maryland, a position he held until his death on February 2, 1792.

Governor Plater named his plantation Sotterley after Sotterley Hall, Suffolk, England, the ancestral home of the Plater family. Governor Plater adopted the name as early as In addition to giving the plantation a new name he extensively renovated and enlarged Sotterley. His additions included the Chinese Chippendale staircase and the shell ornamentation in the drawing room, designed by Richard Boulton.

After Governor Plater's death, his son George Plater IV inherited Sotterley and at his death it was inherited by his son, George Plater V.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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Sotterley

#8. SIGNIFICANCE continued

George Plater V squandered most of his family's holdings through debts and gambling. He lost Sotterley, it is believed, in a dice game to his mother's step-brother, William Clarke Somerville (1790-1826). According to legend, Plater, mortally ill with pneumonia, dragged himself from his cousins' house where he was living through the rain to die at Sotterley. His body was found in one of the outbuildings.

William Clarke Somerville sold Sotterley soon after winning it. He also disposed of his own family plantation, Mulberry Fields, preferring to live at his Westmoreland County, Virginia estate, Stratford Hall.

The next owner, Thomas Barber, willed Sotterley to his daughter, Emeline Dallam Briscoe in 1826. She and her family remained at Sotterley for sixty years. The property was sold at auction to the Reverend John Briscoe. He was a friend of the Right Reverend Henry Yates Satterlee, the instigator of the creation of the Cathedral of St. Peter and St. Paul in Washington, D. C. Satterlee, a sometime visitor to Sotterley, persuaded his cousin, Herbert L. Satterlee, to buy the plantation after Briscoe's death.

The new owner, Herbert L. Satterlee (1863-1947), was an influential New York lawyer and son-in-law of Mr. J. P. Morgan, Senior. Satterlee studied the history of Sotterley, restored and renovated it. He accumulated 1,550 acres of land in St. Mary's County in an attempt to recreate the original boundaries of Resurrection Manor.

Satterlee's family, as did the Platers, had ancestral ties with Sotterley Hall, Suffolk, England. Members of the Satterlee family lived at Sotterley Hall, from the time of the Norman Conquest until the War of the Roses. In 1471 the Satterlees were expelled and the Platers, or Playters, took over the English house. Satterlee's purchase of Sotterley, St. Mary's County, in a round about way, reversed the fifteenth-century eviction of his family.

Herbert L. Satterlee's daughter, Mrs. Mabel Satterlee Ingalls, inherited Sotterley in 1947. Mrs. Ingalls donated the plantation to the Sotterley Mansion Foundation, Inc., which maintains the property as a house museum.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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Sotterley

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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Sotterley

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Michael Bourne, Maryland Historical Trust

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	As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:						Law sion een es set	ii									
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Maryland STATE

COUNTY St. Mary's TOWN

VICINITY Hollywood

STREET NO.

ORIGINAL OWNER James Bowles ORIGINAL USE Plantation House

PRESENT OWNER Sotterley Mansion
PRESENT USE Public bldg.
WALL CONSTRUCTION brick and frame Foundation, Inc. NO. OF STORIES

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY

Sotterley 2. NAME

DATE OR PERIOD Circa 1727 STYLE Colonial ARCHITECT BUILDER

3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION

OPEN TO PUBLIC

Yes

Sotterley, a working plantation since the early 18th century, was the home of the Bowles, Plater, Briscoe and Satterlee families. Sotterley continues to be operated today as a working plantation and to be lived in occasionally by members of the Satterlee family. It is opened to the public from June to October.

Sotterley was the home of George Plater III, sixth Governor of Maryland.

Attached is a brochure telling the history of Sotterley, which includes many beautiful illustrations of this historic and gracious plantation.

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE

Interior excellent

Exterior excellent

See map of St. Mary's prepared by the Mt. Mary's historical Society in 1962

6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)

7. PHOTOGRAPH

attached.

3. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Poges) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.

Attached photos.

Forman, H. Chandlee Early Manor and Plantation Houses of Maryland, pp.28, 29, 54, 239

9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER

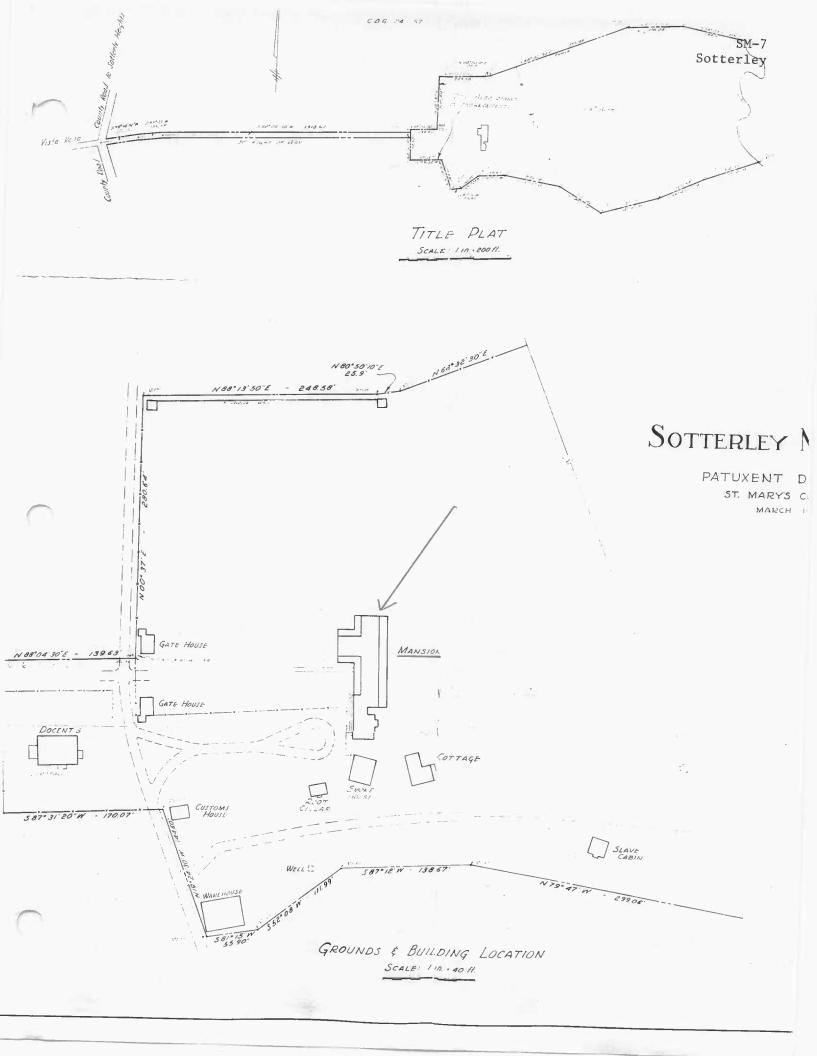
Mary C. Barber Piney Point, Maryland

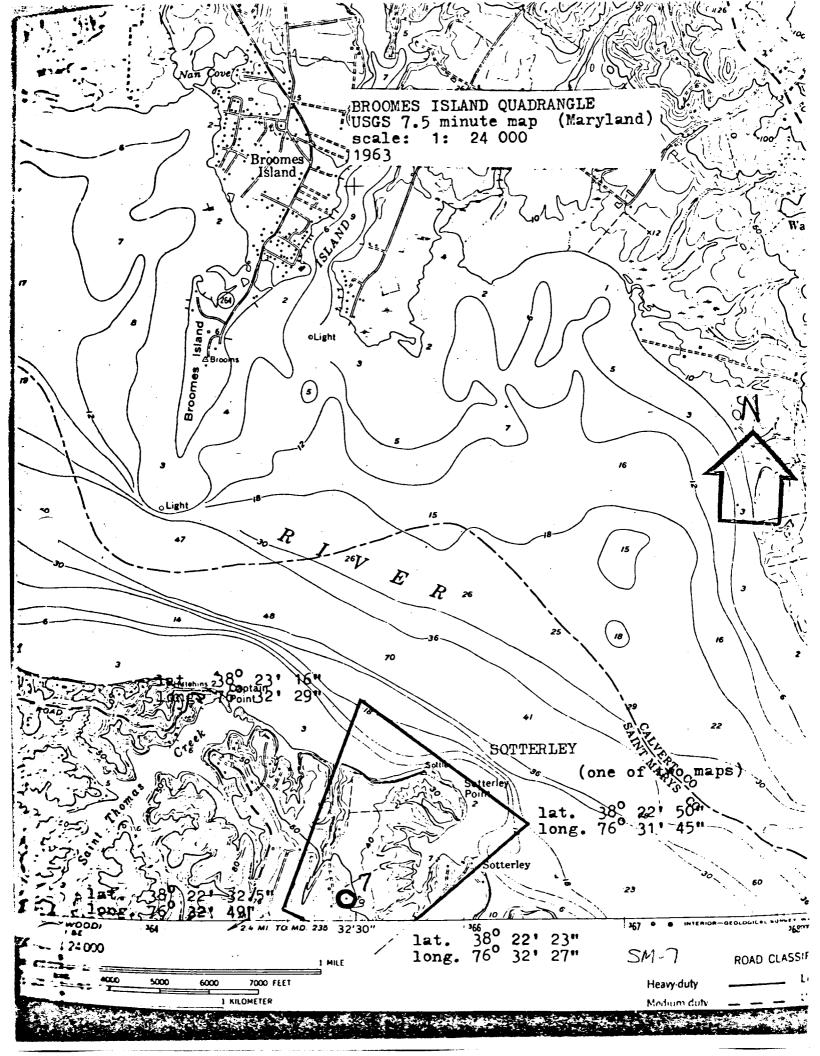
DATE OF RECORD

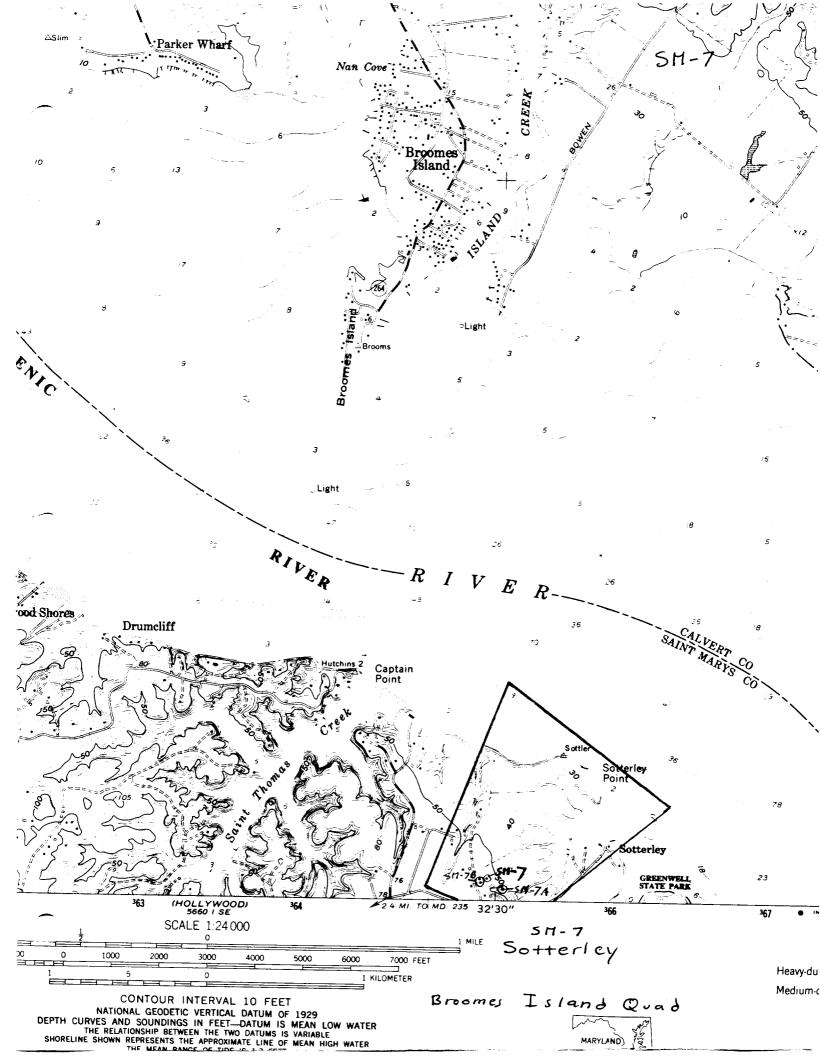
STMA-7 SOTTERLEY
Hollywood
Private, open to public

1st quarter 18th century & later

A collection of historic occupational zones lies under the front lawn of Sotterley. Test pits revealed remains of early driveways, foundations of outbuildings and trash disposal areas. A large domestic trash dump of the 19th century (or possibly earlier) exists here.









SM-7 Sollerie,



Softerly, St. Mary's County



SM-7 Satterley West forest & S. assistion

Section 24



SM-7 Sotterley West forde



SM X SM / rent = C Farely, I end



SM-7 Softerley Interior Stair hall, Chincse Chippendule balustrate



SM-7 Sotterley Interior Stair hall Chinese Chippendale balustrade



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Sottenley SM-7





_ Sotterley- SM-7 Necessary MOB





Sotterley Plantation, St. Mary's County, Md.



